

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION:

A method for previewing a MIB (Management Information Base) group table in a SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) network device comprises transmitting a packet having preview facility from a NMS (Network Management Station) to the network device; after the network device has received the packet, transmitting items in the MIB group table which supports the SNMP back to the NMS in a reply packet; and enabling the NMS to perform an analysis on the reply packet so as to preview items of the MIB group table in the network device which support SNMP.